

4. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 1 wherein the transporter carriage is movable in both a horizontal and vertical direction.

5. (Currently Amended) A compact disc processing system comprising:  
a printer for printing indicia on a first compact disc;  
a recorder for recording information on the first compact disc; and  
a transporter carriage for holding the first compact disc and moving the first compact disc between the recorder and printer, the transporter carriage comprises a single gripping head rotatable about a horizontal axis and having first and second gripping locations each for respectively holding the first and a second compact disc simultaneously, such that the first and second compact discs are held in fixed relative positions coextensive along a common axis in different planes while the first and second compact discs are engaged by the gripping head; and ~~The compact disc processing system of claim 1 further comprising~~ a compact disc organizer comprising:

a plurality of disc trays; and  
a selection mechanism coupled to the plurality of disc trays for selectively moving the plurality of disc trays such that the first compact disc can be placed on the selected disc tray for temporary storage.

6. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 1 further comprising a supply location having a vertically extending rod sized to fit within a central opening provided in the first compact disc.

7. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 1 wherein the gripping head includes a motor for selectively rotating the first compact disc about its axis.

8. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 1 wherein the first and second gripping locations are located on opposite sides of the gripping head and can selectively hold the first and second compact discs using a vacuum.

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9. (Currently Amended) A compact disc processing system comprising:

- a supply station for holding gripping a plurality of blank compact discs;
- a printer for printing indicia on a first compact disc, the printer includes an extendable drawer adapted to receive the first compact disc;
- a recorder for recording information on the first compact disc, the recorder includes an extendable drawer to receive the first compact disc; and
- a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping the first and second compact discs on first and second planes, the transporter carriage is movable in both vertical and a horizontal directions to place and pick up the first compact disc from the drawers of both the recorder and printer, the transporter carriage is movable in both vertical and a horizontal directions to pick up one of the plurality of blank compact discs held at the supply location,

the transporter carriage comprises a pickup arm and a gripping head attached to one end of the pickup arm, the gripping head has first and second gripping locations each for respectively holding gripping the first and second compact discs simultaneously, such that the first and second compact discs maintain a fixed axial position while engaged by the gripping head, and the gripping head is rotatable about a horizontal axis of the pick up arm.

10. (Previously Amended) The compact disc processing system of claim 9 wherein the supply station includes a vertically extending rod sized to fit within a central opening provided in the plurality of blank discs.

11. (Original) The compact processing system of claim 9 further comprising a compact disc organizer comprising:

- a plurality of disc trays; and
- a selection mechanism coupled to the plurality of disc trays for selectively moving the plurality of disc trays such that the first compact disc can be placed on the selected disc try for storage.

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12. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 9 wherein the first and second gripping locations are located on opposite sides of the gripping head and can selectively hold the first and second compact discs using a vacuum.

13. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 9 wherein the first gripping location includes a centering feature to axially align the first compact disc with the first gripping location.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, a recorder for recording information on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs in a fixed axial relation, the method comprising:

- gripping a first compact disc with the transporter carriage;
- moving the transporter carriage to the recorder and placing the first compact disc in the recorder;
- moving the transporter carriage to a supply location and gripping a second compact disc with the transporter carriage while the first compact disc is in the recorder;
- removing the first compact disc from the recorder with the transporter carriage, such that the transporter carriage simultaneously grips both the first and second compact discs on first and second planes, respectively, wherein the first and second compact discs are coextensive along a common axis in different planes;
- rotating the transporter carriage about a horizontal axis;
- placing the second compact disc in the recorder after the first compact disc has been removed; and
- moving the transporter carriage to the printer, rotating the transporter carriage about the horizontal axis and placing the first compact disc in the printer.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the transporter carriage includes a gripping head having first and second grippers for gripping the first and second compact discs.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the first compact disc is rotated about its axis to a predetermined rotational position prior to placing the first compact disc in the printer.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

removing the first compact disc from the printer;  
selectively extending a tray of a compact disc organizer; and  
placing the first compact disc in the extended tray for subsequent removal by a user.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, a recorder for recording information on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping two compact discs, the method comprises in order of:

gripping a first compact discs with the transporter carriage;  
moving the transporter carriage to the recorder and placing the first compact disc in the recorder;

moving the transporter carriage to a supply location and gripping a second compact disc with the transporter carriage while the first compact disc is in the recorder;

removing the first compact disc from the recorder with the transporter carriage, such that the transporter carriage simultaneously grips both the first and second compact discs on first and second planes, respectively, and the first and second compact discs are held in fixed axial positions coextensive along a common axis in different planes while the first and second compact discs are engaged by the gripping head;

rotating the transporter carriage about a horizontal axis;  
placing the second compact disc in the recorder after the first compact disc has been removed; and

moving the transporter carriage to the printer, rotating the transporter carriage about the horizontal axis and placing the first compact disc in the printer.

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19. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, a recorder for recording data on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs on first and second planes such that the two discs are held in fixed relative positions coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

either recording data on the first compact disc using a recorder, or printing indicia on the first compact disc with the printer;

gripping a second compact disc using the transporter carriage while the first compact disc is located in either the recorder or the printer; and

removing the first compact disc from the recorder or printer with the transporter carriage while simultaneously gripping the second compact disc on an opposite side of a horizontal axis of the transporter carriage.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, a recorder for recording information on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

gripping a first compact disc located in the printer with the transporter carriage;

removing the first compact disc from the printer;

moving the transporter carriage to the recorder and gripping a second compact disc located in the recorder with the transporter carriage, wherein the first and second compact discs are held in fixed axial positions while the first and second compact discs are engaged by the gripping head;

removing the second compact disc from the recorder;

rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about a horizontal axis;

placing the first compact disc in the recorder;

moving the transporter carriage to the printer;

rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about the horizontal axis; and

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placing the second compact disc in the printer.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, a recorder for recording information on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs on first and second planes such that the two discs are held in fixed relative positions coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

gripping a first compact disc located in the recorder with the transporter carriage;  
removing the first compact disc from the recorder;  
rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about a horizontal axis;  
moving the transporter carriage to the printer and gripping a second compact disc located in the printer with the transporter carriage;  
removing the second compact disc from the printer;  
rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about the horizontal axis;  
placing the first compact disc in the printer;  
moving the transporter carriage to the recorder;  
rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about the horizontal axis; and  
placing the second compact disc in the recorder.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a recorder for recording data on the compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs on first and second planes coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

gripping a first compact disc located in the recorder with a single gripper head of the transporter carriage, wherein the gripper head is rotatable about a horizontal axis;  
removing the first compact disc from the recorder with the gripper head such that the first compact disc and a second compact disc are held in fixed relative positions by the gripper head;  
rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about the horizontal axis; and

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placing the second compact disc in the recorder without releasing the first compact disc or moving the transporter carriage from the recorder to a compact disc supply location.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a printer for printing indicia on a compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two compact discs on first and second planes such that the two discs are held in fixed relative positions coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

gripping a first compact disc located in the printer with the transporter carriage;  
removing the first compact disc from the printer;  
rotating the transporter carriage 180 degrees about a horizontal axis; and  
placing a second compact disc in the printer without releasing the first compact disc or moving the transporter carriage from the printer to a compact disc supply location.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disc processing system comprising a processing station to perform a processing operation on a compact disc, and a transporter carriage for simultaneously holding gripping at least two axially aligned compact discs on first and second planes coextensive along a common axis in different planes, the method comprising:

gripping a first compact disc located in the processing station with the transport carriage;  
removing the first compact disc from the processing station;  
rotating the transporter carriage about a horizontal axis; and  
placing a second compact disc in the processing station without releasing the first compact disc or moving the transporter carriage from the processing station to a compact disc supply location.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the processing station is elected from the group comprising a printer to print on the compact disc, a recorder to record data on the

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compact disc, a verifier to verify data recorded on the compact disc and a reader to read data stored on the compact disc.

27. (Previously Amended) A compact disc processing system comprising:  
a printer for printing indicia on a first compact disc;  
a recorder for recording information on the first compact disc; and  
a transporter carriage comprising a gripping head that is rotatable about a horizontal axis, the gripping head includes first and second gripping locations to respectively hold the first and a second compact disc on first and second parallel planes, wherein the first and second compact discs maintain a fixed axial relation while engaged by the gripping head.

28. (Original) A compact disc processing system comprising:  
a printer for printing indicia on a first compact disc;  
a recorder for recording information on the first compact disc;  
a transporter carriage moveable in both a horizontal and a vertical direction, the transporter carriage comprises a gripping head that is rotatable about a horizontal axis, the gripping head includes first and second gripping locations to respectively hold the first and a second compact disc on first and second parallel planes, wherein the first and second compact discs maintain a fixed axial relation while engaged by the gripping head;  
and  
a vacuum pump coupled to the gripping head to selectively provide a vacuum to the first and second gripping locations.

29. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 28 wherein the vacuum pump is attached to the gripping head.

30. (Previously Amended) A compact disc processing system comprising:  
a printer for printing indicia on a first compact disc;  
a recorder for recording information on the first compact disc;  
a transporter carriage moveable in both a horizontal and a vertical direction; and

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a gripping head coupled to the transporter carriage and rotatable about a horizontal axis, the gripping head includes first and second gripping locations to respectively hold the first and a second compact disc on first and second parallel planes, the first gripping location comprises a centering feature to axially align the first compact disc with the first gripping location, wherein the first and second compact discs are held in fixed axial positions while the first and second compact discs are engaged by the gripping head.

31. (Original) The compact disc processing system of claim 30 wherein the centering feature comprises a plurality of deflectable fingers which extend from the gripping head, wherein during operation the plurality of deflectable fingers extend into a central opening of the first compact disc.

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